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12 June 1973

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Historical Staff

SUBJECT : Informal Review of Draft History
of the O/DDI, 1952-1971

1. As we agreed in our telephone conversation of last week, I am delivering herewith one copy of my draft history of the O/DDI, 1952-1971. I realize that your time in the Historical Staff is growing quite short and that you will not be able to give this your usual complete and thorough editing job. Because of your personal competence and familiarity with other histories of DDI components, however, I do hope that you will be able to give it a quick informal review and that you can let me have the benefit of any suggestions you may have with regard to substance, tone, unnecessary content, or significant omissions.

2. I am thoroughly aware that considerable mechanical detail needs to be taken care of before the manuscript is ready for final approval, but in the interest of giving you an opportunity to review the substance before you leave the Historical Staff, I am forgoing that mechanical tightening at this time.

3. In addition to the manuscript forwarded herewith, I propose to include a Chronology, photographs of the individuals who have held the position of DDI, and at least one appendix--that to show the organizational evolution of the Directorate, as reflected in organization charts down through the years. Furthermore, as I advised you by phone, I will be adding one additional chapter to cover the tenure of R. J. Smith as the DDI.

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4. I trust that your review of my present draft can be regarded as an informal one, and I would appreciate it if you would limit the circulation of this draft within the Historical Staff to your own personal review. After I have had the benefit of your suggestions, I will feel more confident about submitting the draft for formal approval by the Historical Staff.

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DDI Historian

Attachment

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9 April 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Historical Officer, OER

SUBJECT : DDI Historical Board Comments on OER
History, "The Development of Economic
Intelligence in the Office of Research
and Reports, Volume II"

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25X1A 1. Members of the DDI Historical Board have reviewed and approved the subject OER draft history [redacted]. We consider [redacted] draft to be highly informative, quite interesting, and a well-documented account of the development of economic intelligence research in ORR during its last several years of existence as a separate Office. This volume, in our judgment, approaches closely in quality [redacted] excellent first volume.

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2. A few specific suggestions are offered for consideration by the author, with the objective of improving clarity and accuracy of the draft:

I, 3, line 2: Suggest that "Congressional Support" be changed to "Support to Congress."

II, 5, line 13: Suggest that Chinese as well as Soviet support for "wars of national liberation" was involved in President Kennedy's alarm.

III, 11, line 12: Suggest this sentence read "This uncertainty, in ORR's judgment, was due to the USSR's. . ."

III, 23, line 8-9: Suggest this sentence read "Classified sources, including aerial photography, were only rarely providing useful inputs for this type of economic analysis."

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III, 23, last paragraph: It might be well to note that [redacted] referred to here was actually [redacted]. Additionally, it is suggested that line 2 up be revised to read "... by the geographic bias,

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[redacted]

III, 26: This brief paragraph seems hardly to fit the description "Conclusion(s)." The author might wish to consider heading this paragraph "Application to Policy."

IV: Since the "Aftermath" really figures more prominently in the chapter than does "The CIA Press Conference," it might be useful to consider titling the entire chapter "Publicizing Communist Economic Difficulties."

IV, 6, second paragraph: The penciled annotations here largely reflect my own personal feeling that it is more precise to speak of a "military establishment" than a "defense establishment," since the establishment could obviously be used for either defensive or offensive purposes.

V, 10: Suggest this section head read "C. McCone's Letter to Rusk."

V, 12, lines 1-2: Suggest this read "... demands for support from the DCI, ONE, and the NIS program, as well as ..."

V, 15: Suggest this section head read "D. McCone's Letter to MacNamara."

25X1A V, 18, lines 2-3: It would be interesting to explain how the actual letter came to be drafted by [redacted]

VI, 15, line 10: The reference here to J-2 is somewhat imprecise. Was it the J-2 section of CINCPAC, or of MACV, or just which joint headquarters had prepared the study?

VI, 16, lines 3-9 up: I am impressed by the number of recommendations for action that are mentioned here; this sounds like more than a typical

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intelligence report. Perhaps this would be worthy of a comment.

VI, pages 17-18: I found myself unclear as to whether this discussion was concerned exclusively with the Viet Cong capability to carry on military action in South Vietnam or whether it dealt more broadly with overall Communist capability, including that of North Vietnamese forces in the South.

VI, 38, lines 3-8 up: As a matter of interest, even though the development post dated the drafting of this history, did the subsequent mining cum aerial interdiction alter this assessment in any way?

VI, entire chapter: I found no mention of SAVA in this chapter. Did ORR have any significant relations with him?

VII, 1, line 5: The expression "It had gradually divested itself. . ." implies that these initiatives came from ORR. Weren't they externally generated? Perhaps it would be more accurate to say "It had gradually been divested of. . ."

VII, 6, line 10: The phrase in parenthesis seems somewhat pointless here, since the author does proceed to describe the case.

VII, pages 11-12: Is this portion of the section properly subsumed under "SIG and Support?"

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VII, 11, lines 7-8: In the interest of geographical clarity, it might be better to refer to this as ". . . the railroad route from Zambia via Katanga (Congo) to the port of Lobito, Angola."

VII, section C.: From its title, one would expect this section to include some treatment of the OER-OSR development of 1 July 1967. Actually, that treatment does not occur in the draft until the "Epilogue" on page VII-32.

VII, 32, lines 3-4: Suggest this sentence read "the Military-Economic Research Area and were combined with elements from OCI to become the. . ."

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VII, 34: The penciled annotations on this page are intended to reflect my judgment that the organizational changes involved here were not really a matter of creating new units, but more precisely, of bestowing upon existing units a new organizational status.

3. I shall be pleased to discuss with the author any of these comments or any of my penciled annotations on the draft, should he wish to do so.

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Chairman, DDI Historical Board

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